

Message Text

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TO SECRETARY OF DEFENSE WASHINGTON DC

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CSA WASHINGTON DC

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CSAF WASHINGTON DC

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE

S E C R E T TEHRAN 01711

SECDEF FOR ASD/ISA

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS

SUBJ: LONG RANGE IRANIAN PROCUREMENT PLAN

REF SECDEF MESSAGE 1146 (FROM DSAA-TS) DTG 240043Z JAN 78

1. APPRECIATE LIST CONTAINED REFTEL WHICH MATCHES LIST WE HAD PUT TOGETHER HERE. COMMENTS BELOW RELATE TO REQUEST FOR CONFIRMATION OF YOUR ASSUMPTION THAT GOI NO LONGER HAS ANY INTEREST IN THESE ITEMS SINCE THEY WERE NOT INCLUDED IN LONG RANGE PLAN.

2. FROM THE OUTSET THE EFFORT TO DEVELOP THE LONG RANGE IRANIAN PLAN RELATED TO MAJOR WEAPONS SYSTEMS. THUS,

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IRANIANS DID NOT INCLUDE, FOR EXAMPLE, AMMUNITION REORDERS, BUT LIMITED THEMSELVES TO MAJOR SYSTEMS. NEITHER THE MISSION NOR THE GOI THOUGHT ABOUT THE TWO ITEMS (DEAGON MISSILES AND 2.75 ROCKETS) IN THE LIST UNDER US ARMY IN THAT CONTEXT. WE RECOGNIZE THIS WAS INCORRECT SINCE BOTH ARE INCLUDED IN THE MUNITIONS CONTROL MAJOR DEFENSE EQUIPMENT LIST, AND

THREFORE SHOULD HAVE BEEN INCLUDED IN THE LONG RANGE IRANIAN PLAN. IN ANY EVENT, THE GOI IS STILL INTERESTED IN THOSE TWO ITEMS.

3. WITH RESPECT TO THE ITEMS UNDER THE US NAVY SECTION OF REFTEL, THE GOI DOES NOT EXPECT TO BUY THE FFG-7 OR THE MEDIUM LOGISTIC SHIPS FROM THE US. THE GOI HAS ALREADY DECLINED THE LOA FOR THE FLOATING DRYDOCK. IRANIAN INTEREST, HOWEVER, DOES CONTINUE WITH RESPECT TO THE TWELVE TUGBOATS, WHICH WERE NOT INCLUDED IN THE LONG RANGE PLAN BECAUSE THEY WERE NOT CONSIDERED MAJOR DEFENSE EQUIPMENT.

4. WITH RESPECT TO THE ITEMS IN PARAGRAPH TWO OF REFTEL, THE IRANIANS HAVE REDUCED THEIR REQUIREMENT FOR ADDITIONAL RH-53D HELICOPTERS BY HALF, AND SIX OF THESE EELICOPTERS, AS YOU NOTE, WERE INCLUDED IN SUBJECT PLAN. THE SITUATION WITH RESPECT TO LASER TARGET DESIGNATOR EQUIPMENT IS COVERED IN CARMISH-MAAG MESSAGE, DTG 041421Z JAN 78. AS NOTED IN THAT MESSAGE THE IIAF ASKED THAT THE REQUEST FOR THE LASER TARGET DESIGNATOR EQUIPMENT NOT BE SUBMITTED UNTIL THE REQUEST HAS AGAIN BEEN REVIEWED WITH THE IRANIAN VMOW. NO FINAL GOI DECISION HAS AS YET BEEN MADE. THE QUESTION OF ADDITIONAL AWACS, BEYOND THE SEVEN WHICH THE GOI IS ACQUIRING, DID NOT ARISE DURING

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DEVELOPMENT OF THE LONG RANGE IRANIAN PLAN AND HAS NOT BEEN RAISED SINCE. THE GOI IS STILL INTERESTED IN THE AERIAL TANKER FUEL FLOW MODIFICATION, AND WE UNDERSTAND THEY WILL PROVIDE US WITH AN LOI IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

5. IN SUM, WE CAN GENERALLY CONFIRM YOUR ASSUMPTION THAT THE GOI NO LONGER HAS AN INTEREST IN PREVIOUSLY REQUESTED ITEMS NOT INCLUDED IN SUBJECT PLAN. THOSE INSTANCES (NOTED ABOVE) WHERE IRANIAN INTEREST DOES CONTINUE WE DO NOT VIEW AS INCONSISTENT WITH THE PURPOSE OR THE SPIRIT OF THE UNDERTAKING AS AGREED DURING THE DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT AND THE SHAH LAST NOVEMBER, TO DEVELOP A LONG RANGE IRANIAN ARMS PROCUREMENT PLAN.

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